

Mission:  
To protect, promote & improve the health  
of all people in Florida through integrated  
state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott  
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS  
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TUBERCULOSIS (TB) CASE INVESTIGATION AT A LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL**

**SANFORD-** The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County (DOH-Seminole) is currently involved in the contact investigation of one case of active Tuberculosis (TB) of a Seminole High School student. School officials, as well as families of attending students, are being notified and are participating in the investigation. Approximately 125 students and staff from the school have been identified and notified for testing. Those individuals exposed are being medically evaluated and will be offered therapy, if found infected. The investigation was initiated following the recent hospitalization, and release, of a student with active TB.

"This is an isolated case within the school district. Florida Department of Health and Seminole County School District are responding together to notify and educate students, parents, and staff about tuberculosis," said Dr. Swannie Jett, Health Officer for the Department of Health in Seminole County. "Our top priority is to continue providing a safe and healthy environment for everyone."

TB is a disease caused by germs spread from person to person in close contact through the air by respiratory droplets and requires prolonged exposures to the same indoor air with the infected person. TB germs are put in the air when a person with TB disease of the lungs or throat coughs, sneezes, speaks or sings. Persons who breathe in the air containing TB germs can become infected.

TB usually affects the lungs, yet may also affect other parts of the body. Symptoms of TB disease include feelings of sickness or weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats. Symptoms of TB disease of the lungs also include coughing, chest pain, and coughing up blood.

TB is diagnosed by a skin test or blood test, administered by your health care provider or local health department. A positive test usually means the person has been infected with the TB germ, however, it does not necessarily mean the person has active TB disease. Additional tests, such as an x-ray or sputum sample are needed to determine if the person has active TB disease. TB can be easily cured through proper medical treatment.

For more information, go to <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/tuberculosis/tb-faqs.html> and [www.cdc.gov/tb](http://www.cdc.gov/tb).

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